

Message Text

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ACTION ABF-01

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4206

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 10828

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS ASFP PINT ID

SUBJ: GAO PUBLIC SAFETY REVIEW--REQUEST FOR DATA ON
POLITICAL PRISONERS

REF: JAKARTA 10790 (NOTAL)

1. UPON MY RETURN I HAVE REVIEWED QUESTION OF GAO REQUEST FROM BANGKOK OFFICE TO WIDEN CURRENT INQUIRY INTO US PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAMS TO INCLUDE "RELATED" AREA OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, INCLUDING REQUEST FOR MY AGREEMENT TO THEIR CONTACTING INDONESIAN OFFICIALS AND VISITING BURU ISLAND.

2. I AM SEEING GAO REPRESENTATIVES OLSON AND RYDER TOMORROW (SEPTEMBER 3) AND PROPOSE TO INFORM THEM THAT (A) TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THERE HAS BEEN NO USG INVOLVEMENT IN THE INCARCERATION OF DETAINEES FROM THE 1965 EVENTS IN INDONESIA AND NONE IN THE ARREST OF INDIVIDUALS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS OF JANUARY 15; AND (B) IN THE ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS I CANNOT AGREE THAT THESE ARE APPROPRIATELY INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY OF U.S. PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAMS. I WILL INDICATE MY READINESS ORALLY TO BRIEF THEM ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF DETAINEES
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IN INDONESIA AND THE ACTIONS WHICH THE EMBASSY HAS TAKEN

WITH RESPECT TO SECTION 32 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT. I WILL STRESS, HOWEVER, THAT I HAVE NO AUTHORITY TO RELEASE ANY DOCUMENTS RELATING THERETO.

3. OLSON AND RYDER'S REQUEST TO VISIT BURU ISLAND AND INTERVIEW POLICE AND PRIOSN OFFICIALS WAS CONTAINED IN INTERIM MEMORANDUM NO 1 DATED AUGUST 26 WHICH ALSO REQUESTED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. MEMORANDUM READS AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE: WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE EMBASSY'S POSITION ON THE FLOWING POINTS RELATED TO SECTION 32 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1973 AND THE INCARCERATION TREATMENT OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN INDONESIA. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR COMMENTS BY SEPTEMBER 6, 1974. (1) THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT'S DEFINITION OF "POLITICAL PRISONERS." (A) THE NUMBER OF "POLITICAL PRISONERS" IN THE JAILS, PRISONS, AND MILITARY CAMPS. (3) WHAT ARE THESE PRISONERS CHARGED WITH? (4) HOW ARE THEY TREATED ? (5) HAVE US-PROVIDED FUNDS OR COMMODITIES BEEN USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT, AND OPERATIONS OF THE JAILS, PRISONS AND CAMPS? (6) FOR ALL PRISONS AND DETENTION CENTERS IN INDONESIA, PLEASE PROVIDE: A. LOCATION, B. INMATE CAPACITY, C. CURRENT INMATE POPULATION, AND D. NUMBER OF PRISONERS BY TYQQ, SUCH AS MINIMUM SECURITY, JUVENILE, WOMEN, ETC. (7) PLEASE PROVIDE COPIES OF EMBASSY RESPONSES TO STATE MESSAGES 068545 (4/4/74), 135799 (6/25/74), AND 151977 (7/13/74). (8) DISCUSS THE POLITICAL PRISONERS HELD SINCE 1965, THEIR INCARCERATION IN THE BURU TEFAAT, THEIR TREATMENT, THE PLANS TO BRING THEM TO TRIAL, AND THEIR RELEASE. UNQUOTE.

3. I WILL INFORM OLSON AND RYDER THAT I HAVE RECEIVED THEIR MEMORANDUM AND HAVE FORWARDED TEXT TO DEPARTMENT. I WILL INDICATE THAT WHATEVER MAY BE ULTIMATE DECISION WITH RESPECT TO FURTHER INQUIRIES BY GAO, QUESTIONS THEY HAVE RAISED RELATE TO INTERNAL INDONESIAN AFFAIRS ABOUT WHICH IT MAY BE DIFFICULT OBTAIN PRECISE INFORMATION. ANY APPROACH WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE EFFECT ON WIDER US INTERESTS IN INDONESIA.
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4. COMMENT: WHILE DESIRING TO BE FULLY COOPERATIVE WITH GAO, QUESTIONS OF INVESTIGATION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS ISSUE RAISES SERIOUS ISSUES RELATING TO OUR BROADER RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA. UNLESS DEPARTMENT FEELS OTHERWISE, I FEEL WE SHOULD TAKE FIRM POSITION THAT THIS HAS NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH EMBASSY, OR AS FAR AS WE KNOW WITH DEPARTMENT, AND MATTER REQUIRES

FURTHER CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON. OBVIOUSLY
ANY REQUEST TO INDONESIA WOULD RAISE PROBLEMS FOR US
AND WOULD PROBABLY HAVE LITTLE CHANCE OF PRODUCING ANY
MEANINGFUL RESULTS. OLSON AND RYDER NOW PLAN DEPART
INDONESIA SEPTEMBER 6.
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